

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office  
FLOOR DEBATE

January 12, 2004 LB 172

different message out of that e-mail than Senator Foley does. But what that e-mail and what I think Senator Foley would tell us is, look, this is...you should have the child and the parent come to an understanding together, guided by the wisdom of the parents, guided by their participation and support of their children. In most circumstances, I don't think I'd have any problems with that. In fact, I would agree with that in the vast majority of the circumstances. What about this one, a Grand Island father who tortures his eight-year-old son and his five-year-old daughter with an electric cattle prod? This is a person we're going to hand over and say, you know what, there is no role for the state; let the parent and the child work it out together. The Grand Island woman who is found guilty of a felony when she allows her brother to build bombs in their home and the bombs are stored in the room that her three children sleep in, but there's no role for the government there. It's the parent and the child. Let them work these things out themselves. The Papillion father who injects his 16-year-old daughter and two of her friends with methamphetamine. Don't need a judicial bypass for those situations? The stepfather in Madison who was convicted of abusing his two stepdaughters 9 and 16 years of age and is reported to have married the mother so that he could sexually abuse her children; this is the person to whom we're going to place our faith rather than a judicial bypass or notice of a judicial bypass? In Sidney, a stepfather who receives...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR LANDIS: ...who has incest with his stepdaughter when she was 13 or 14 years of age? She gets pregnant and guess who we're going to say, no, no, you got a pregnancy, it's a problem pregnancy, work that out with the stepfather who was committing incest. Don't have a message from the school; don't let them know what their rights are; let them trust the loving relationship of parent and child. A 30-month Lincoln girl suffered second and third degree burns from her abdomen to her feet after her mother placed her in a bathtub of scalding water after the child had soiled themselves. There is a role for government to tell the uninitiated, the unknowledgeable, the naive that they have rights; that the rights stem from the